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# INVESTIGATION

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
Military Intelligence Service  
Washington  
OCT 9 1943

Subject: Letter of Transmittal.

To: Honorable J. Edgar Hoover,  
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
United States Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

The attached communications are forwarded for your information and such action as you consider advisable.

For the Chief, Military Intelligence Service:

*L. R. Forney*

L. R. FORNEY  
Colonel, General Staff Corps,  
Asst. Executive Officer, MIS.

Enclosures: 109

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
HEADQUARTERS FIFTH SERVICE COMMAND  
ARMY SERVICE FORCES

(Office of Headquarters)

SPVID

Fort Hayes, Columbus 18, Ohio  
(Place)

27 September 1943  
(Date)

Subject: Organization Meeting for the purpose of arranging a  
Celebration on the 10th Anniversary of the recognition  
of Soviet Russia by the United States.

Summary of Information:

On 22 September 1943 at 1900 at preliminary meeting was held in the basement of the Lima, Ohio, Public Library for the purpose of organizing a committee to arrange for a celebration in recognition of the 10th anniversary of the recognition of Soviet Russia by the United States, celebration to be held in the Lima Municipal Auditorium on 6 November 1943. There were eighteen persons present at this meeting, including eleven men and eight women. Mrs. Harley Holmes, 667 W. Market Street, Lima, Ohio, acted as chairman of the meeting, assisted by Mr. Elmer McClain, local attorney, whose offices are at 205 Faurot Building, and residing on R.F.D. No. 6, Lima, Ohio. Professor John T. Klassen, of Bluffton College, a native Russian artist and teacher, was present at the meeting and offered his services as a language instructor to those interested in enrolling in a language class. The meeting covered only plans for the celebration to be held in Lima on 6 November 1943, and those in attendance unanimously agreed that Mrs. Holmes should act as permanent chairman since she is actively associated with the National Council of the American-Soviet Friendship. Mrs. Holmes accepted chairmanship and announced she would contact the various schools, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and various industrial concerns for aid in making the exhibit and celebration a success. The next meeting of the organization will be held at the Lima Public Library Basement at 1900, 30 September 1943.

Mrs. Holmes, wife of Harley Holmes, was a resident of Lima, Ohio, some twenty-five years ago. Mr. Holmes, a musician, was called to Cleveland, Ohio, by the Cleveland Symphony Orchestra, where he remained for approximately twenty years. In 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Holmes made an extended tour in Russia, and Mrs. Holmes became intensely interested in an idealistic way in Russian art, education, and social progress. She has been active in the National Council of American-Soviet Friendship for some time. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes recently moved from Cleveland, Ohio, to Lima, Ohio, and have purchased property near the city limits.

Previous Distribution:

Distribution:

A. C. of S., G-2, WD, Wash. D. C. (2 cyps) A

FBI, Cleveland, Ohio. (1 cpy)

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Evaluation  
-of source -of information  
Reliable  
Credible  
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Undetermined

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Subject: Organization Meeting for the purpose of arranging a Celebration on the 10th Anniversary of the recognition of Soviet Russia by the United States.

Mr. Elmer McClain is an attorney in the city of Lima and lives on R. R. 6. Mr. McClain has been intensely interested in Russia and has on several occasions contacted the Lima Public Library and encouraged them to purchase a number of books on Russia.

This is forwarded for your information.

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